

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Previously, claims 1-7 were pending with claim 1 being independent. This amendment adds new claims 8-18 and amends each of claims 1, 3, and 4.

Drawing Figure 1B has been amended to include a "PRIOR ART" legend. Drawing Figure 7A has been amended to change the identifier "2a" to --3a-- to be consistent with the specification.

The Official Action objected to drawing Figure 1B. Drawing Figure 1B has been responsively amended.

The Official Action rejected claims 4-6 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

More specifically, the Official Action referenced Figure 7A and stated that there was shown the conductor 32 being covered with an insulator 33. This is true. However, it is also true that the surface of wire 3a is covered with the insulator 33. Accordingly, the recitations of claim 4 are believed to be fully supported and enabled by the originally-filed specification. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore solicited.

Claims 3 and 4 were objected to due to informalities. Responsively, these claims have been amended.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected as anticipated by BLEICH et al. 5,600,097.

Claims 1 and 3-6 stand rejected as anticipated by COCCO Re. 31,197.

Claims 1 and 7 stand rejected as obvious over BLEICH et al.

No subject matter was indicated to be allowable.

The Substantive Rejections

The Official Action rejects independent claim 1 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by BLEICH et al.

The technical field of the present invention is an electric cord for electrically connecting a vibrator and an input terminal and a loudspeaker using the electric cord. See page 1, lines 5-8 of the specification as originally filed. That is, the present invention is an electric cord for a loudspeaker.

On the contrary, the technical field of BLEICH et al. is fire resistant multi-pair telecommunications cables (backbone cables). See column 1, lines 6-10. The cable of BLEICH et al. is the signal transmission cable used to interconnect the various electronic peripheral devices with, for example, computers. See column 1, lines 15-17. That is, the present invention is quite different from BLEICH et al. in types of cables.

Amended claim 1 has four features: (1) an electric cord comprises a plurality of wires, (2) the plurality of wires

electrically connect a vibrator and an input terminal to which a drive signal for driving the vibrator is inputted, (3) the plurality of wires flow the same electric current, and (4) the respective wires are electrically insulated from each other. That is, the same drive signal for driving the vibrator passes through each of the plurality of wires of the present invention.

In consideration of the purpose of the telecommunications cables of BLEICH et al., it is clear that each conductor 24 of a twisted pair 21 does not flow the same electric current. That is, since BLEICH et al. do not disclose the third feature, amended claim 1 is novel over BLEICH et al.

Also, the Official Action rejects independent claim 1 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by COCCO.

The technical field of COCCO is a telephone cord having a braided outer jacket. See column 1, lines 11-15. The present invention is quite different from COCCO in types of cables. The filamentary cores 33 in one cordage flow different electric currents. More specifically, one of the filamentary cores 33 flows an electric current from a speaker of the handset 24 to the wooden cabinet 22, the second of the filamentary cores 33 flows the current from the cabinet 22 to the speaker, the third flows an electric current from a microphone of the handset 24 to the cabinet 22, and the fourth flows the current from the cabinet 22 to the microphone. That is, since COCCO does not disclose the

third feature, the plurality of wires flow the same electric current. Amended claim 1 is quite different from COCCO.

The Official Action rejects independent claim 1 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over BLEICH et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In amended claim 1, the same electric current flows through the plurality of wires. Even if the telecommunications cable of BLEICH et al., however, connects between a vibrator and an input terminal, there is a structural difference between BLEICH et al. and amended claim 1. That is, BLEICH et al. do not disclose, teach or suggest that the plurality of wires of the telecommunications cables flow the same electric current. Therefore, amended claim 1 is believed to be patentable over BLEICH et al.

Applicants have respectfully added new claim 8. The features of this claim are also not seen in the prior applied references.

New independent claim 9 and dependent claims 10-18 are also believed to be patentable.

The inventive loudspeaker electrical cord is recited in claim 10 as comprising plural wire rods (see e.g., Figure 5) forming a single electric signal pathway. The claim recites that the plural wire rods are formed of plural wires positioned adjacent each other and electrically isolated from each other, each wire comprising a center core formed of a plurality of cord

threads twisted upon each other, a conductor wound on the center core, and an insulator covering a surface of the conductor and a surface of the wire.

For the reasons discussed above, this structure of the loudspeaker electrical cord is believed to be both novel and non-obvious over the prior art.

Further, the structure is believed to be patentable when the insulator is enamel (claim 10), the insulator covers an entire surface of the conductor (claim 10, see e.g. insulator 23 of Figure 4A), wherein a cross-section of the conductor is rectangular (claim 12), wherein a part of an exterior surface of the conductor directly contacts the center core (see that the inner part of conductor 32 directly contacts core 31 in Figure 7A). Also note the recitations of claim 16 in that the cord further comprises a connection, at one end of the wire rods, for attachment to an input terminal of a frame associated with a voice coil. See Figure 10 of the drawings.

In summary, reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1B and Fig. 7A. The first sheet, which includes Fig. 1A and Fig. 1B, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1A and Fig. 1B. In Fig. 1B, the legend "PRIOR ART" has been added. The second sheet, which includes Fig. 7A and Fig. 7B, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 7A and Fig. 7B. In Fig. 7A, the reference numeral "2a" has been changed to --3a--.

APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following items:

- Replacement Sheets for Figures 1B and 7A of the drawings